

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions, and listings of claims in the instant application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Previously Presented) A method for digital content access control, comprising:

receiving, by a rights locker provider, a rights locker enrollment request from a user device associated with a user, said rights locker enrollment request comprising a digital content request and enrollment authentication data;

determining, by said rights locker provider, whether said user is authorized using said enrollment authentication data, said determining comprising determining rights of said user to access said rights locker and rights of said user to digital content specified by said digital content request wherein said rights locker provides (1) a description of a user's access rights for digital content; and (2) controlled access to said description; and

if said user is authorized,

initializing, by said rights locker provider, said rights locker with rights to said digital content;

obtaining, by said rights locker provider, a new token that authenticates future access to said rights locker corresponding to said digital content;

creating, by said rights locker provider, an authenticated rights locker access request based at least in part on said new token; and

sending, by said rights locker provider, said authenticated rights locker access request over a network to said user device.

2. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein said digital content request comprises a request for initializing said rights locker with rights to specified digital content.

3. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein said enrollment authentication data comprises:

rights locker access authentication data for determining what rights, if any, said user has to access said rights locker; and

rights content access authentication data for determining what rights, if any, said user has to digital content associated with said rights locker.

4. (Original) The method of claim 3 wherein said rights locker access authentication data comprises payment for use of a rights locker service.

5. (Original) The method of claim 3 wherein said rights content access authentication data comprises payment for rights deposited in said rights locker.

6. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein said enrollment authentication data comprises a reenrollment key determined in a previous enrollment request for said rights locker, said reenrollment key for supplementing or replacing enrollment authentication data of said previous enrollment request.

7. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein said determining comprises determining whether said user is entitled to become an enrolled user based at least in part on whether payment for use of the rights locker service succeeds.

8. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein said determining comprises determining whether an enrolled user is entitled to populate said rights locker with rights to said digital content based at least in part on whether payment for said rights succeeds.

9. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein said new token is for storage in a bookmark on said user device.

10. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein said sending further comprises embedding said authenticated rights locker access request in a Web cookie before said sending.

11. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1 wherein said sending further comprises encapsulating said authenticated rights locker access request in an HyperText Transfer Protocol Response message before said sending.

12. (Previously Presented) A method for digital content access control, comprising:

receiving, by a rights locker provider, a first authenticated rights locker access request and a digital content specification from a user device associated with a user wherein said rights locker provides (1) a description of a user's access rights for digital content; and (2) controlled access to said description;

validating, by said rights locker provider, said first authenticated rights locker access request;

if said validating indicates said first authenticated rights locker access request is valid,

creating, by said rights locker provider, an authenticated digital content request for use in accessing digital content stored by a digital content repository;

if a first token used to create said authenticated rights locker access request has been fully redeemed, obtaining, by said rights locker provider, a new token that authenticates future access to a rights locker corresponding to said digital content;

creating, by said rights locker provider, a new authenticated rights locker access request based at least in part on said new token; and

sending, by said rights locker provider, said authenticated digital content request and said new authenticated rights locker access request over a network to said user device.

13. (Original) The method of claim 12 wherein said receiving further comprises receiving one or more delivery parameters, said one or more delivery parameters indicating where said digital content should be sent, a delivery mechanism, or both.

14. (Original) The method of claim 12 wherein said new token is for storage in a bookmark on a user device.

15. (Original) The method of claim 12, further comprising embedding said authenticated rights locker access request in a Web cookie before said sending.

16. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 12, further comprising encapsulating said authenticated rights locker access request in an HyperText Transfer Protocol Response message before said sending.

17. (Previously Presented) A method for digital content access control, comprising:

receiving, by a rights locker provider, a first authenticated rights locker access request and a digital content specification from a user device associated with a user wherein said rights locker provides (1) a description of a user's access rights for digital content; and (2) controlled access to said description;

validating, by said rights locker provider, said first authenticated rights locker access request;

if said validating indicates said first authenticated rights locker access request is valid,

creating, by said rights locker provider, an authenticated digital content request for use in accessing digital content stored by a digital content repository;

sending, by said rights locker provider, said authenticated digital content request to said digital content repository;

if a first token used to create said authenticated rights locker access request has been fully redeemed, obtaining, by said rights locker provider, a new token that authenticates future access to a rights locker corresponding to said digital content;

creating, by said rights locker provider, a new authenticated rights locker access request based at least in part on said new token; and

sending, by said rights locker provider, said new authenticated rights locker access request to said user device over a network.

18. (Original) The method of claim 17 wherein said receiving further comprises receiving one or more delivery parameters, said one or more delivery parameters indicating

where said digital content should be sent, a delivery mechanism, or both.

19. (Original) The method of claim 17 wherein said new token is for storage in a bookmark on a user device.

20. (Original) The method of claim 17, further comprising embedding said authenticated rights locker access request in a Web cookie before said sending.

21. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 17, further comprising encapsulating said authenticated rights locker access request in an HyperText Transfer Protocol Response message before said sending.

22. (Previously Presented) A program storage device readable by a machine, embodying a program of instructions executable by the machine to perform a method for digital content access control, the method comprising:

receiving, by a rights locker provider, a rights locker enrollment request from a user device associated with a user, said rights locker enrollment request comprising a digital content request and enrollment authentication data;

determining, by said rights locker provider, whether said user is authorized using said enrollment authentication data, said determining comprising determining rights of said user to access said rights locker and rights of said user to digital content specified by said digital content request wherein said rights locker provides (1) a description of a user's access rights for digital content; and (2) controlled access to said description; and

if said user is authorized,

initializing, by said rights locker provider, said rights locker with rights to said digital content;

obtaining, by said rights locker provider, a new token that authenticates future access to said rights locker corresponding to said digital content;

creating, by said rights locker provider, an authenticated rights locker access request based at least in part on said new token; and

sending, by said rights locker provider, said authenticated rights locker access request over a network to said user device.

23. (Original) The program storage device of claim 22 wherein said digital content request comprises a request for initializing said rights locker with rights to specified digital content.

24. (Original) The program storage device of claim 22 wherein said enrollment authentication data comprises:

rights locker access authentication data for determining what rights, if any, said user has to access said rights locker; and

rights content access authentication data for determining what rights, if any, said user has to digital content associated with said rights locker.

25. (Original) The program storage device of claim 24 wherein said rights locker access authentication data comprises payment for use of a rights locker service.

26. (Original) The program storage device of claim 24 wherein said rights content access authentication data comprises payment for rights deposited in said rights locker.

27. (Original) The program storage device of claim 22 wherein said enrollment authentication data comprises a reenrollment key determined in a previous enrollment request for said rights locker, said reenrollment key for supplementing or replacing enrollment authentication data of said previous enrollment request.

28. (Original) The program storage device of claim 22 wherein said determining comprises determining whether said user is entitled to become an enrolled user based at least in part on whether payment for use of the rights locker service succeeds.

29. (Original) The program storage device of claim 22 wherein said determining comprises determining whether an enrolled user is entitled to populate said rights locker with rights to said digital content based at least in part on whether payment for said rights succeeds.

30. (Original) The program storage device of claim 22 wherein said new token is for storage in a bookmark on said user device.

31. (Original) The program storage device of claim 22, said method further comprising embedding said authenticated rights locker access request in a Web cookie before said sending.

32. (Previously Presented) The program storage device of claim 22, said method further comprising encapsulating said authenticated rights locker access request in an HyperText Transfer Protocol Response message before said sending.

33. (Previously Presented) A program storage device readable by a machine, embodying a program of instructions executable by the machine to perform a method for digital content access control, the method comprising:

receiving, by a rights locker provider, a first authenticated rights locker access request and a digital content specification from a user device associated with a user wherein said rights locker provides (1) a description of a user's access rights for digital content; and (2) controlled access to said description;

validating, by said rights locker provider, said first authenticated rights locker access request;

if said validating indicates said first authenticated rights locker access request is valid,

creating, by said rights locker provider, an authenticated digital content request for use in accessing digital content stored by a digital content repository;

if a first token used to create said authenticated rights locker access request has been fully redeemed, obtaining, by said rights locker provider, a new token that authenticates future access to a rights locker corresponding to said digital content;

creating, by said rights locker provider, a new authenticated rights locker access request based at least in part on said new token; and

sending, by said rights locker provider, said authenticated digital content request and said new authenticated rights locker access request over a network to said user device.

34. (Original) The program storage device of claim 33 wherein said receiving further comprises receiving one or more

delivery parameters, said one or more delivery parameters indicating where said digital content should be sent, a delivery mechanism, or both.

35. (Original) The program storage device of claim 33 wherein said new token is for storage in a bookmark on a user device.

36. (Original) The program storage device of claim 33, said method further comprising embedding said authenticated rights locker access request in a Web cookie before said sending.

37. (Previously Presented) The program storage device of claim 33, said method further comprising encapsulating said authenticated rights locker access request in an HyperText Transfer Protocol Response message before said sending.

38. (Previously Presented) A program storage device readable by a machine, embodying a program of instructions executable by the machine to perform a method for digital content access control, the method comprising:

receiving, by a rights locker provider, a first authenticated rights locker access request and a digital content specification from a user device associated with a user wherein said rights locker provides (1) a description of a user's access rights for digital content; and (2) controlled access to said description;

validating, by said rights locker provider, said first authenticated rights locker access request;

if said validating indicates said first authenticated rights locker access request is valid,

creating, by said rights locker provider, an authenticated digital content request for use in

accessing digital content stored by a digital content repository;

sending, by said rights locker provider, said authenticated digital content request to said digital content repository;

if a first token used to create said authenticated rights locker access request has been fully redeemed, obtaining, by said rights locker provider, a new token that authenticates future access to a rights locker corresponding to said digital content;

creating, by said rights locker provider, a new authenticated rights locker access request based at least in part on said new token; and

sending, by said rights locker provider, said new authenticated rights locker access request to said user device over a network.

39. (Original) The program storage device of claim 38 wherein said receiving further comprises receiving one or more delivery parameters, said one or more delivery parameters indicating where said digital content should be sent, a delivery mechanism, or both.

40. (Original) The program storage device of claim 38 wherein said new token is for storage in a bookmark on a user device.

41. (Original) The program storage device of claim 38, said method further comprising embedding said authenticated rights locker access request in a Web cookie before said sending.

42. (Previously Presented) The program storage device of claim 38, said method further comprising encapsulating said authenticated rights locker access request in an HyperText Transfer Protocol Response message before said sending.

43. (Previously Presented) An apparatus for digital content access control, comprising:

means for receiving, by a rights locker provider, a rights locker enrollment request from a user device associated with a user, said rights locker enrollment request comprising a digital content request and enrollment authentication data;

means for determining, by said rights locker provider, whether said user is authorized using said enrollment authentication data, said determining comprising determining rights of said user to access said rights locker and rights of said user to digital content specified by said digital content request wherein said rights locker provides (1) a description of a user's access rights for digital content; and (2) controlled access to said description; and

means for if said user is authorized,

initializing, by said rights locker provider, said rights locker with rights to said digital content;

obtaining, by said rights locker provider, a new token that authenticates future access to said rights locker corresponding to said digital content;

creating, by said rights locker provider, an authenticated rights locker access request based at least in part on said new token; and

sending, by said rights locker provider, said authenticated rights locker access request over a network to said user device

44. (Original) The apparatus of claim 43 wherein said digital content request comprises a request for initializing said rights locker with rights to specified digital content.

45. (Original) The apparatus of claim 43 wherein said enrollment authentication data comprises:

rights locker access authentication data for determining what rights, if any, said user has to access said rights locker; and

rights content access authentication data for determining what rights, if any, said user has to digital content associated with said rights locker.

46. (Original) The apparatus of claim 45 wherein said rights locker access authentication data comprises payment for use of a rights locker service.

47. (Original) The apparatus of claim 45 wherein said rights content access authentication data comprises payment for rights deposited in said rights locker.

48. (Original) The apparatus of claim 43 wherein said enrollment authentication data comprises a reenrollment key determined in a previous enrollment request for said rights locker, said reenrollment key for supplementing or replacing enrollment authentication data of said previous enrollment request.

49. (Original) The apparatus of claim 43 wherein said means for determining comprises means for determining whether said user is entitled to become an enrolled user based at least in part on whether payment for use of the rights locker service succeeds.

50. (Original) The apparatus of claim 43 wherein said means for determining comprises means for determining whether an enrolled user is entitled to populate said rights locker with rights to said digital content based at least in part on whether payment for said rights succeeds.

51. (Original) The apparatus of claim 43 wherein said new token is for storage in a bookmark on said user device.

52. (Original) The apparatus of claim 43, further comprising means for embedding said authenticated rights locker access request in a Web cookie before said sending.

53. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 43, further comprising means for encapsulating said authenticated rights locker access request in an HyperText Transfer Protocol Response message before said sending.

54. (Previously Presented) An apparatus for digital content access control, comprising:

means for receiving, by a rights locker provider, a first authenticated rights locker access request and a digital content specification from a user device associated with a user wherein said rights locker provides (1) a description of a user's access rights for digital content; and (2) controlled access to said description;

means for validating, by said rights locker provider, said first authenticated rights locker access request;

means for if said validating indicates said first authenticated rights locker access request is valid,

creating, by said rights locker provider, an authenticated digital content request for use in

accessing digital content stored by a digital content repository;

if a first token used to create said authenticated rights locker access request has been fully redeemed, obtaining, by said rights locker provider, a new token that authenticates future access to a rights locker corresponding to said digital content;

creating, by said rights locker provider, a new authenticated rights locker access request based at least in part on said new token; and

sending, by said rights locker provider, said authenticated digital content request and said new authenticated rights locker access request over a network to said user device.

55. (Original) The apparatus of claim 54 wherein said means for receiving further comprises means for receiving one or more delivery parameters, said one or more delivery parameters indicating where said digital content should be sent, a delivery mechanism, or both.

56. (Original) The apparatus of claim 54 wherein said new token is for storage in a bookmark on a user device.

57. (Original) The apparatus of claim 54, further comprising means for embedding said authenticated rights locker access request in a Web cookie before said sending.

58. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 54, further comprising means for encapsulating said authenticated rights locker access request in an HyperText Transfer Protocol Response message before said sending.

59. (Previously Presented) An apparatus for digital content access control, comprising:

means for receiving, by a rights locker provider, a first authenticated rights locker access request and a digital content specification from a user device associated with a user wherein said rights locker provides (1) a description of a user's access rights for digital content; and (2) controlled access to said description;

means for validating, by said rights locker provider, said first authenticated rights locker access request;

means for if said validating indicates said first authenticated rights locker access request is valid,

creating, by said rights locker provider, an authenticated digital content request for use in accessing digital content stored by a digital content repository;

sending, by said rights locker provider, said authenticated digital content request to said digital content repository;

if a first token used to create said authenticated rights locker access request has been fully redeemed, obtaining, by said rights locker provider, a new token that authenticates future access to a rights locker corresponding to said digital content;

creating, by said rights locker provider, a new authenticated rights locker access request based at least in part on said new token; and

sending, by said rights locker provider, said new authenticated rights locker access request to said user device over a network.

60. (Original) The apparatus of claim 59 wherein said means for receiving further comprises means for receiving one

or more delivery parameters, said one or more delivery parameters indicating where said digital content should be sent, a delivery mechanism, or both.

61. (Original) The apparatus of claim 59 wherein said new token is for storage in a bookmark on a user device.

62. (Original) The apparatus of claim 59, further comprising means for embedding said authenticated rights locker access request in a Web cookie before said sending.

63. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 59, further comprising means for encapsulating said authenticated rights locker access request in an HyperText Transfer Protocol Response message before said sending.

64. (Currently Amended) A rights locker provider apparatus for digital content access control, comprising:

a memory for storing one or more rights lockers wherein each of said one or more rights lockers provides (1) a description of a user's access rights for digital content; and (2) controlled access to said description; and

a processor configured to:

receive a rights locker enrollment request from a user device associated with a user, said rights locker enrollment request comprising a digital content request and enrollment authentication data;

determine whether said user is authorized using said enrollment authentication data, said determining comprising determining rights of said user to access said rights locker and rights of said user to digital content specified by said digital content request; and

if said user is authorized,
 initialize said rights locker with rights
to said digital content;
 obtain a new token that authenticates
future access to said rights locker
corresponding to said digital content;
 create an authenticated rights locker
access request based at least in part on said
new token; and
 send said authenticated rights locker
access request over a network to said user
device.

65. (Original) The apparatus of claim 64 wherein said digital content request comprises a request for initializing said rights locker with rights to specified digital content.

66. (Original) The apparatus of claim 64 wherein said enrollment authentication data comprises:

 rights locker access authentication data for
determining what rights, if any, said user has to access
said rights locker; and

 rights content access authentication data for
determining what rights, if any, said user has to digital
content associated with said rights locker.

67. (Original) The apparatus of claim 66 wherein said rights locker access authentication data comprises payment for use of a rights locker service.

68. (Original) The apparatus of claim 66 wherein said rights content access authentication data comprises payment for rights deposited in said rights locker.

69. (Original) The apparatus of claim 66 wherein said enrollment authentication data comprises a reenrollment key determined in a previous enrollment request for said rights locker, said reenrollment key for supplementing or replacing enrollment authentication data of said previous enrollment request.

70. (Original) The apparatus of claim 64 wherein said determining comprises determining whether said user is entitled to become an enrolled user based at least in part on whether payment for use of the rights locker service succeeds.

71. (Original) The apparatus of claim 64 wherein said determining comprises determining whether an enrolled user is entitled to populate said rights locker with rights to said digital content based at least in part on whether payment for said rights succeeds.

72. (Original) The apparatus of claim 64 wherein said new token is for storage in a bookmark on said user device.

73. (Original) The apparatus of claim 64 wherein said processor is further configured to embed said authenticated rights locker access request in a Web cookie before said sending.

74. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 64 wherein said processor is further configured to encapsulate said authenticated rights locker access request in an HyperText Transfer Protocol Response message before said sending.

75. (Previously Presented) A rights locker provider apparatus for digital content access control, comprising:

a memory for storing one or more rights lockers wherein each of said one or more rights lockers provides (1) a description of a user's access rights for digital content; and (2) controlled access to said description; and

a processor configured to:

receive a first authenticated rights locker access request and a digital content specification from a user device associated with a user;

validate said first authenticated rights locker access request;

if said validation indicates said first authenticated rights locker access request is valid,

create an authenticated digital content request for use in accessing digital content stored by a digital content repository;

if a first token used to create said authenticated rights locker access request has been fully redeemed, obtain a new token that authenticates future access to a rights locker corresponding to said digital content;

create a new authenticated rights locker access request based at least in part on said new token; and

send said authenticated digital content request and said new authenticated rights locker access request over a network to said user device.

76. (Original) The apparatus of claim 75 wherein said apparatus is further configured to receive one or more delivery parameters, said one or more delivery parameters indicating where said digital content should be sent, a delivery mechanism, or both.

77. (Original) The apparatus of claim 75 wherein said new token is for storage in a bookmark on a user device.

78. (Original) The apparatus of claim 75 wherein said processor is further configured to embed said authenticated rights locker access request in a Web cookie before said sending.

79. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 75 wherein said processor is further configured to encapsulate said authenticated rights locker access request in an HyperText Transfer Protocol Response message before said sending.

80. (Previously Presented) An apparatus for digital content access control, comprising:

- a memory for storing one or more rights lockers wherein each of said one or more rights lockers provides (1) a description of a user's access rights for digital content; and (2) controlled access to said description; and

- a processor configured to:

- receive a first authenticated rights locker access request and a digital content specification from a user device associated with a user;

- validate said first authenticated rights locker access request;

- if said validation indicates said first authenticated rights locker access request is valid,

- create an authenticated digital content request for use in accessing digital content stored by a digital content repository;

- send said authenticated digital content request to a digital content repository;

if a first token used to create said authenticated rights locker access request has been fully redeemed, obtain a new token that authenticates future access to a rights locker corresponding to said digital content;

create a new authenticated rights locker access request based at least in part on said new token; and

send said new authenticated rights locker access request to said user device over a network.

81. (Original) The apparatus of claim 80 wherein said apparatus is further configured to receive one or more delivery parameters, said one or more delivery parameters indicating where said digital content should be sent, a delivery mechanism, or both.

82. (Original) The apparatus of claim 80 wherein said new token is for storage in a bookmark on a user device.

83. (Original) The apparatus of claim 80 wherein said processor is further configured to embed said authenticated rights locker access request in a Web cookie before said sending.

84. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 80 wherein said processor is further configured to encapsulate said authenticated rights locker access request in an HyperText Transfer Protocol Response message before said sending.

85. (Cancelled)

86. (Cancelled)

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Reply to Notice of Allowance of January 14, 2008

87. (Cancelled)

88. (Cancelled)

89. (Cancelled)

90. (Cancelled)